

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 01193 111741Z
ACTION ARA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W
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P R 111710Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3654
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 1193

E.O. 11652: N/A

UNCLAS MARCH 11 (PASS TO VOA) INFLUENTIAL, CONSERVATIVE EL
DIARIO DE HOY TODAY EDITORIALIZED ON THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE
PANAMA CANAL EXPRESSING HOPE THAT A NEW TREATY CAN BE REACHED
ON THIS DIFFICULT ISSUE WHICH CONCERNS NOT ONLY THE "INTERESTED
PARTIES" BUT ALMOST ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. THE PAPER
POINTED OUT THAT IN THE PANAMA CANAL ISSUE THERE ARE TWO
IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION.
FIRST, THE CANAL'S GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION IMPACTS ON THE ECONOMY
OF LARGE AREAS OF THE CONTINENT AND SECONDLY, THE INTER-
OCEANIC WATERWAY IS STRATEGIC FROM A MILITARY VIEWPOINT
DUE TO SOVIET PRESENCE IN THE CARIBBEAN AREA (CUBA).
SAID EL DIARIO DE HOY (SPANISH EXCERPTS):

"ES NATURAL QUE LA FORMULACION DE UN NUEVO TRATADO SEA NO SOLO
DEL INTERES SINO QUE DE LA INCUMBENCIA DE CASI TODOS LOS PAISES
DEL MUNDO, Y NO UNICAMENTE DE LOS INVOLUCRADOS...

"EN ESTO, DESDE LUEGO, DEBEN TOMARSE EN CUENTA DOS FACTORES DE
IMPORTANCIA PRIMORDIAL: PRIMERO, QUE LA SITUACION DEL CANAL
GRAVITA ENORMEMENTE SOBRE LA ECONOMIA DE GRANDES AREAS DEL CON-
TINENTE; SEGUNDO, QUE EL CANAL TIENE UNA IMPORTANCIA ESTRATEGICA
MUY GRANDE, SOBRE TODO TOMANDO EN CUENTA LA PRESENCIA DE
LA BASE SOVIETICA EN LAS ANTILLAS.

"CUANDO EL GOBIERNO NORTEAMERICANO INSISTE EN QUE CUALQUIER TRA-
TADO DEBE GARANTIZAR "UN CANAL DE PANAMA, SEGURO, ABIERTO A LA
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NAVEGACION Y LIBRE' ESTA TOMANDO EN CUENTA NO SOLO SUS PROPIOS
INTERESES, SINO LOS DE AQUELLOS QUE UTILICEN ESA VIA PARA
COMERCIAR...EL CANAL DE PANAMA HA SIDO UNA VIA ABIERTA Y
LIBRE Y JAMAS FUE BLOQUEADO PARA FORZAR DESARROLLOS EN OTROS
PAISES.

"PANAMA, POR DESGRACIA, NO HAD DISFRUTADO DE LA ESTABILIDAD
POLITICA QUE MERECE. Y

NADIE PUEDE GARANTIZAR QUE EN UN FUTURO,
LEJOS O CERCA, NO HAGA USO INDEBIDO DE ESE PRIVILEGIO. POR
SU PARTE, LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EJERCEN UN GRAN CUIDADO DE QUE EL
CANAL NO SE UTILICE PARA FINES BELICOS O, DIGAMOS, PARA EL TRA
FICO DE ESTUPEFACIENTES. ES INCONCEBIBLE QUE UNA NACION
EXTRANJERA ENVIE PERTRECHOS MILITARES A OTRA UTILIZANDO EL CANAL
O QUE SE PERMITA EL TRAFICO ABIERTO DE DROGAS. TODO ESTO DEBE
TOMARSE EN CUENTA AL FORMULAR UN NUEVO TRATDAO, NO SOLO PARA
GARANTIA DE LAS PARTES QUE LO FIREMEN,SINO PARA GARANTIA
DE MUCHOS PAISES, COMO DIGAMOS EL NUESTRO."
GRIFFITHS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Expiration:
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From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions:
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